

THE ALMA RECORD.

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ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 29, 1914

WHOLE NUMBER 1859

BLIND PIG MURDER

Dave Sullivan of St. Louis
Victim of Man Slaughter

SUSPECTED MAN DISAPPEARS

Skull Fractured in Several Places—
Brain Pulpified—Face and Body
Bruised

Manslaughter was the result of a blind pig brawl in St. Louis Saturday night. Dave Sullivan, aged about fifty years, was the victim. He was found about midnight at the bottom of stairway on main street, right in the business part of the city. His head was bleeding until the blood formed a rivulet to the gutter, and his face was puffed until it was black. He was taken to his room and cared for by a doctor until Monday evening when he was brought to Brainerd Hospital, Alma. He died there at 1:20 Thursday afternoon.

At his death Wilbur Eunis court sheriff Newell Smith Justice of the Peace acting as coroner, Ezekiel Arnold Poor Commissioner, Dr. Brainerd removed the skin from the skull and showed the contusion fracture and then removed the skull and allowed the pulpified brain to be viewed.

The opinion of the doctor's that it was merical that he lived five minutes. He was not conscious at all from the time that he was found to his death, although several senses were mumbled. Dr. Bristow asked him who struck him and he answered, "I won't go back on my friends, but if I live through this, I'll tell you all the truth." He also mumbled something about someone having his money. The blow that caused his death was one that required strength enough to fracture the skull and cause the brain to be mashed.

\$40 IN PRIZES

Given by Business Men for Best Corn Exhibits

The business men of Alma have donated prizes amounting to nearly \$50 for the best ten ears of corn in each of the following five varieties: Yellow Dent corn, White Dent corn, Smut Nose, White Flint, Pop corn. The contest commences on November 9, and continues until January 1. The exhibits will be on display at the Alma State Savings Bank and are always open to inspection by the public.

The judges of the corn are Fred Battles, Henry McNamara, Burton I. Gee, Frank E. Boyd, William Schiff, and Wm. Vanderbeck. Every farmer within a radius of fifteen miles of Alma is eligible. See ad. in this paper.

Newell Smith

Candidate for Representative
in State Legislature

Newell Smith, candidate for Representative, was born May 1st, 1862, and when ten years of age moved with his parents to the township of Wheeler where he grew up and lived there until 1891 when he moved to St. Louis. He has lived in Gratiot County 32 years, and was Supervisor of Wheeler ten years and also one year since moving to St. Louis, was admitted to the bar in 1890, has held several city offices, has been a Justice of the Peace in Wheeler and St. Louis twenty years, was elected Representative in 1912.

He is a forceful and fearless speaker, and made a good record in the Legislature, and if elected will be a credit to himself and to Gratiot County.

CONFERS DEGREE.

The Ithaca and the Alma Odd Fellows Cantons united Wednesday evening and conferred the degree on a class of fifteen candidates from Stanton.

The work was done in the Odd Fellows hall in this city. About twenty-five were present from both Ithaca and Stanton. After the degree work an informal banquet was served to the visiting cantons and delegates.

An inspection of the cantons was made by Major Stinchcomb.

Newell M. Bradford

Of Wheeler, Candidate for
Sheriff of Gratiot County

Newell M. Bradford, the choice of the Republican voters in the primary, is a Gratiot county man. Born raised in Wheeler township, he has served the people of his township offices, at present serving his second term as Supervisor. His popularity and efficiency in his own township is evidenced by the almost unanimous vote accorded him in the August Primaries, thereby reversing the oft repeated phrase that



"Prophet is not without honor, save in his own country."

Mr. Bradford has always stood for the best things in community life which go to make up good citizenship. He wishes to say to the voters of Gratiot County that he has never been approached by any man in the county asking an appointment as Deputy Sheriff, and that if elected will go into office owing no political debt to any man, and that all appointments will be made upon the basis of efficiency.

Mr. Bradford has made a vigorous and clean campaign, and has met nearly all the voters of the county, and asks in an honest straight forward manner the support of all who favor an economic and impartial administration of the county affairs at the disposal of the sheriff.

A vote for Newell M. Bradford means a vote for efficiency, economy and good citizenship.

AUCTION SALE.

Arthur Hilsinger, living 6 miles west and one-half mile north of Alma, or 2 miles west of Elwell, will sell at auction on Saturday, October 31, a large quantity of stock and farm tools. Among the stock are several head of horses and cows.

Bird J. Tucker

Republican Candidate for
Register of Deeds.

If ever an officer needed no recommendation to secure his reelection, it is Bird J. Tucker, Republican candidate for Register of Deeds. Two years ago it was predicted that if elected Bird Tucker would make one of the most competent and popular officers Gratiot



has ever had in this important office.

The prediction has been fulfilled to the letter. Every detail of the office has received Mr. Tucker's most careful attention and with his competent assistants he has given prompt service.

As a penman he is excelled by very few. As an affable gentleman he is popular with all patrons of the office.

He needs no introduction to Gratiot voters because of his splendid service.

STANTON LADIES ENTERTAIN

Last Friday afternoon Mesdames Hall, Messenger, Brainerd, Scattergood, Kelley, Parr, Brewbaker and Ward took the 1:32 flyer for Stanton in response to an invitation sent by Mrs. French and Mrs. Finch of that city.

The ladies were met at the train and escorted to the beautiful home of Mrs. Finch, where were assembled a number of Stanton ladies. Cards were the feature of the afternoon's entertainment, Alma ladies winning both prizes. At 5:30 a six-course dinner was served, after which some fine music was rendered.

The Alma ladies voted Mesdames Finch and French fine entertainers.

DOWNY WOODPECKER

A Boy's View Point Towards
Birds

WOODPECKERS ARE A BENEFIT

Characteristic Black and White
Marking—Call Notes

A boy at first always looks upon birds as elusive spirits of the air, which he longs to follow in their freedom of flight and love of the woods. He would like to share the evident blessings of freedom and seeming care-free pastime of making a living by hunting for good things, just the things apparently most desired. At least he thinks they must be good, from the manner in which they are so diligently sought. "Downy" was engaged in that business just in that way, as he meandered up the bole of an old apple tree, picking here a hard-coated morsel, and there a wriggling tid-bit from the dusty cracks in the bark; stopping occasionally to tap, tap, tap in rapid strokes on some unsuspecting spot. The boy not six feet away watched and listened with senses tense. Even the acute keenness of the boy's ear could detect no difference in the different taps. Yet the bird, while using his head as a hammer, chooses the vulnerable spot that contained the boring insect larva beneath. This little physician of the orchard has learned to tell what is hidden beneath by the sound of or percussion, just as the real physician, perhaps after having learned it from his little instructor, learns what is the condition of the lungs by what he calls percussion. Tap, tap, tap, and upward the bird went with a short quick swing and firm grip ready for the next victim.

There are some people who have even fancied that these "wood-peckers" do a lot of damage making holes in trees. Far from this. They only help to clean up the orchards and trees and make possible larger and better crops.

What is the food of the Downy wood-pecker? About three-quarters of the food consists of insects, nearly all of which are known to be injurious. Prominent among these are the boring beetles, codling moths, and bark beetles. The other fourth consists of wild berries such as those of the dogwood, poison ivy, and Virginia creeper.

The Downy wood-pecker is common from March till October or November in this locality, and occasionally his cheery rattling call is one of the few bird-notes in winter, as his flash of black and white tells of the courage and hardness of this small beneficial species. The bird is readily known as the Downy wood-pecker, or Dryobates pubescens medianus, as it is our smallest wood-pecker, six to seven inches in length, and is recognized by its habit of creeping on the tree trunks. Its call notes and its black and white markings, and white underparts, aid in identifying it. The crown of the male has a scarlet crescent.

Erva R. Laycock

For County Drain Commissioner, Republican Ticket

Among all the offices in the county none comes nearer to the people's pockets nor needs more careful selection than that of County Drain Commissioner. Erva R. Laycock the Republican candidate is especially well qualified for this position.

Having served as highway commissioner of his township, he is able to see the township side of all drain matters.

As a practical builder of drains for ten years, he knows just how they should be built, and where and is able to form a just estimate of each person's share of the benefits.

As a man of sterling integrity the people of Gratiot County can trust Erva R. Laycock with the construction of their drains and know that the work will be done promptly, economically, thoroughly and honestly. That he will push all work with energy and secure to all tax payers the benefits of the drains on which they have paid taxes in the shortest possible time after the drain is sold.

That he will give to every detail of the office his individual attention and secure to the people the greatest possible efficiency.

A vote for Erva R. Laycock is a vote for your own interest.

Mr. and Mrs. William Smith visited in St. Louis over Sunday.

Bernie L. Case

Of Emerson, Candidate for
County Clerk.

B. L. Case, Republican candidate for county clerk was for seven years supervisor of his township of Emerson where he has lived for 25 years. As supervisor he was careful, efficient and thorough, always standing for economy and having a broad outlook on the interests of the county.

Besides holding the office of supervisor he served his township for two years as treasurer and two years as township clerk. His competency, honesty and



faithfulness are recognized by all his townspeople. He does not ask that the people of the county vote for him for clerk just on his own say so but invites them to ask any one who knows him.

There are several in every township who have served on the board of supervisors with him. Ask them, be they Democrats or Republicans, whether Bernie Case is honest, competent, or whether or not he would make a good county clerk, and see what they say. He is willing to abide by their verdict.

He is a man in middle life, in the full prime of manhood. He was born in 1872. He will come to the office fully equipped by his education and experience for this important office.

Vote to elect Bernie Case and you will never regret it. No party in this county has ever presented a better man.

John A. Damon

Candidate for State Senator
on Republican Ticket

John A. Damon was born in Lake county, Ohio, going at the age of five years with his parents to Deane county, Wis., where he was brought up on a farm.

He spent four years in study at the University of Wisconsin in the preparatory course and the freshman year of the full literary course and entered the sophomore class, having passed the required examination. He then taught school two winters, after which he went



to Beloit, Wis. and secured a position in a drug store, being desirous of learning that business. After four years here he came to Michigan, locating at Millington, Tuscola county in the spring of 1876 and engaged in drug and grocery business, was elected to the legislature from the first district of Tuscola county in 1886 and reelected in 1888. In the fall of 1891 he sold his business and home at Millington and removed to Georgia, seeking relief from rheumatism in a milder climate. He later returned to Michigan and located in the fall of 1894 at Wiedman, Isabella county, where he carried on a successful business for twelve years. Was elected county treasurer in 1906 and again in 1908. Since entering upon the duties of county treasurer he has made Mt. Pleasant his home.

Fred Mackbridge, late with the Republic Motor Truck Co., left last Saturday for Wellington, Ontario, where he has accepted a position as foreman with the Electric Welding Co. This company manufactures shells for the guns used by the English government. The position came unsolicited.

BIT THE WRONG MELON

Saginaw High Defeated by
Gridiron Boys of Alma

FORWARD PASSES SUCCESSFUL

Score 13 to 12—Alma Had Crippled
Team on Field

What's the matter with Alma High? She's all right! Who's all right? Alma High! Who said so? Gazella! Gazella! Gazella! Get out! Get out! Get out! Get out! Get out! Get out! Zip! Boom! Bah! Alma High School Rah! Rah! Rah!

Alma, 13; Saginaw West Side, 12. Alma's old rival was trodden under foot Saturday on Davis Field by Alma's crippled team. The day was sunshiny, and neither hot nor cold, just right. The field was a trifle rough but in excellent condition otherwise. A large delegation of Saginaw rooters came to see their team defeated at the hands of a city hardly large enough to be called a good Saginaw suburb. Between six and eight hundred people witnessed the fray. About twenty-five came over from St. Louis, a nice delegation from Ithaca and the surrounding country.

Alma's team showed the effects of efficient coaching and the team work which was necessary to bring about the victory was in evidence with a vim and vengeance bound to win. Although the score was close, the headwork of Alma's men was far superior to that of her heavier rival.

Some of Alma's best plays were bottled up and were not uncorked. Once a trick play that would have netted a large gain was tried, but it failed. The forward passes of Saginaw were of no avail, seldom were they caught at all, and some of them that did not hit the ground were intercepted by Alma men. Alma's passes were usually successful. Alma's second touchdown was made by Stevens on a forward pass. He received the pass in an open field and ran away from the Saginaw safeties for a touchdown.

Mahr made many short gains thru or over Saginaw's heavy line. Smith, dodging here, there and everywhere, mystified the Arthur Hill men, and netted gains for Alma. Handley, smashing thru the line, made his usual gains. All of the fellows proved that they could fight when the odds were against them.

Blaisdell L.E., Muscott I.T., Wonders, (Boyd) L.G., Campbell C., Tinkham R.G., Dutt R.T., Stephens R.E., V. Handley (H. Handley) L.H., Mahr F., Smith R.H.

AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT

Lee Meyers Drives Into Quick Sand
Corner of Bridge and Michigan

An accident occurred at the corner of Michigan avenue and Bridge street during the small hours of the night Sunday last. Lee Meyers and several friends from Breckenridge were driving in the former's Oakland touring car, from St. Louis to Alma by way of the Angling road. They arrived safely to the intersection of Michigan avenue and Bridge street, and there the mishap occurred. A sewer is being put in at this point and a large hole in the quicksand has been excavated. It contained quite a lot of water and mud. The red lanterns which were stationed at the crossing had gone out and it was for that reason that the car was steered into the hole. The driver, Mr. Meyers, was thrown out and struck in the mud, sinking to his waist. No one was seriously injured; the windshield of the car was smashed, the front lights broken and the steering gear bent out of shape.

The city team was called out and by the aid of a derrick, blocks and tackle, the car was hoisted into the road and hauled to a garage.

FEDERATION DAY.

The delegates to the State Federation of Woman's Clubs held at Adrian, will give their reports at an open meeting of the Woman's Club, to be held Monday, November 2nd, at 2:45 p. m., at the home of Mrs. Francis King.

Members of the Art Club, the Civic Improvement League, and the Garden Club are cordially invited to be present.

COR. SECTY.

Dan Peirce living one mile north and three-fourths of mile west of Forest Hill will hold an auction sale of stock and farm tools on Wednesday November 3. Sale will commence at one o'clock sharp.

Wilbur Nelson

Republican Candidate for
County Treasurer.

Wilbur Nelson the Republican candidate for County Treasurer, came to Gratiot as a small boy when the county was first opened to settlement. He has been a resident of the county ever since except for the period from 1861 to 1865 when he was fighting to preserve the Union, entering the war as a sergeant and was rapidly promoted to the position of captain. After the close of the war he returned to Gratiot county and made his home in Ithaca where he has since resided, and



where he has long been actively identified with the business life of the village. He remains today active and energetic in the conduct of his business affairs.

He has never been a seeker of political office but has served as President, Trustee, and Treasurer of the village of Ithaca, served four years as assistant assessor of Internal Revenue, and represented Gratiot County one term in the Legislature, in all of which positions he showed himself to be a faithful, hard working and competent servant of the people.

As County Treasurer, Wilbur Nelson, will devote all his time, energies and personal attention to conducting the business of the county with the same care, honesty, and zeal which he has heretofore devoted to his private business. He will not entrust the County's business to the hands of any deputy but will take charge of the office and the work of the county in act and not merely in name. His long experience and broad business training makes him admirably fitted to perform efficiently the duties as County Treasurer. Your vote for Wilbur Nelson for County Treasurer on November 3rd will be appreciated.

O. L. Smith

Republican Candidate for
Prosecuting Attorney

The office of Public Prosecutor is one of special interest to the people of Gratiot county. The candidate for this office should be a man of thorough preparation. This qualification O. L. Smith, the Republican candidate possesses in a large degree, having been thoroughly trained in the Normal college at Ypsilanti and at the University of Michigan.

He should have actual experience in meeting men and reading character that he may deal justly with all, this he has gained by several years experience



as a teacher and superintendent of schools and by the practice of the law.

He should have actual experience as a lawyer and in the independent conduct of cases, this Mr. Smith has had.

He should be a ready and forcible speaker with the faculty of apt illustration. This O. L. Smith has in a large degree as any one who has ever heard him knows. The cause of the county will always have an able representative in Prosecutor Smith.

This office above all else needs an economical, well balanced, man. A man who will not bring suit for every trivial matter and involve the county in unnecessary expense but will sift thoroughly every charge laid before him and exercise careful judgement while fully protecting the community against law breakers.

The office needs a young man of energy who will be always alert and watchful for the interest of the county and every citizen.

THE CITY CARRIERS

Completed Count, 8,426 Pieces of
Mail Handled in one Week

R. F. D. CARRIERS COUNT

For Whole Month Will Show Interesting
Figures

For the week ending October 24th, the city letter carriers had one of the busiest times of the year. The department called for a count and weight of all mail and a separation of business and resident mail accordingly; 8,426 pieces of mail weighing 1,341 pounds, was delivered in the resident section and the distance traveled was 241 3-4 miles, and 5,707 pieces weighing 465 pounds, was delivered in the business section at a distance of 58 1-4 miles, making a total for the three city carriers of 14,133 pieces weighing 1,806 pounds delivered while traveling 300 miles.

The first delivery in the morning and the first one in the afternoon each have a total of 993 stops of which 136 are in the business section and an average of 90 per cent of these are made at each trip and the carriers are kept mightily busy effecting good and thorough service in their allotted 8 hours which includes their time routing mail.

During this same time and outside from what the city carriers delivered there were 285 parcel post packages delivered, causing 351 separate stops at a distance of 69 3-4 miles.

The Rural Carriers are having a count for the whole month and some interesting figures will result in their report.

MISS CHERRY BLOSSOM

Musical Comedy at Realty Opera
House Friday November 6

Miss Cherry Blossom, a three act musical comedy, written by Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson Dodge, will be produced under the auspices of the Alma Baseball Association, in this city Nov. 6, at the Realty Opera House. The cast is chosen from Alma's most popular and talented young people. This play will be the treat of the season to Alma theatre goers. The principals and choruses have been rehearsing under the personal direction of Miss Ruth Johnson, and the production promises to be one of the greatest successes ever staged in this city.

The city band will play on the street in the evening and the orchestra at the Opera House.

Cast of Characters
Cherry Blossom, brought up as the daughter of Kokemo, in reality Evelyn Barnes of New York. Miss Mary Sharp, Kokemo, proprietor of a Tea Garden in Tokyo. Chas. A. Button, John Henry Smith, of New York, on a visit to Japan. John Chick, Henry Foster Jones, Jack's Pal. Mr. McIntyre, Mr. Horace Worthington, of New York, a stockbroker. Ford Gargett, James Young, Worthington's secretary. Paul Kress, Jessica Vanderspool, Worthington's niece. Miss Bernice Pollasky

GOVERNOR FERRIS

Spoke From Special Train Saturday
to Large Crowd

Governor Ferris arrived in Alma at 11:15 Saturday morning in his special train. He was enthusiastically greeted at the station by a band and a large delegation of citizens and college students. The band gave a short concert on Superior street and then marched to the depot where they played almost continually until the special arrived.

The governor gave a very forceful, purely political talk from the observation platform of the car. He was introduced by our townsman, William A. Bahlike. His speech was received very warmly and loud cheers were given in his honor.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Anderson were Alma visitors Sunday. Mr. Anderson, known as "Pink," was a student of Alma College for several years, and is well known in this city.